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3738

PATENT

#2

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s) Henderson et al. Examiner: Unassigned  
Serial No.: 09/994,551 Group Art Unit: 3738  
Confirmation No: 8199 Docket: 760-99 (formerly 498-269)  
Filed: November 27, 2001 Dated: April 14, 2003  
For: IMPROVED NEXT  
GENERATION AV GRAFT

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

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Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231*

On: April 14, 2003

By: Amanda F. Shaw  
Amanda F. Shaw

**SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Sir:

In order to fulfill the requirements of candor and good faith set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.56, Applicants submit herewith the following Information Disclosure Statement in accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. §1.97 and §1.98. Attached hereto is Form PTO-1449 listing references which may be considered material in evaluating the patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

These references have been cited in one or more search reports from a foreign patent office in corresponding International Application No. PCT/US 02/29292, filed on September 16,

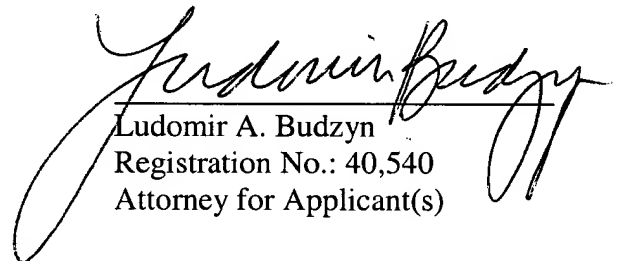
2002. A copy of the search report and references cited therein, that have not been previously disclosed, are enclosed for the convenience of the Examiner.

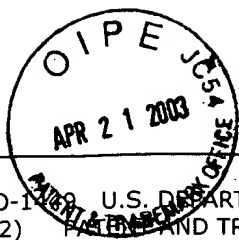
As this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the issuance of a first Office Action and within three months of issuance of the Search Report, no fee is deemed necessary. If, however a fee is necessary, please charge Deposit Account No. 08-2461.

If the Examiner has any questions or comments relating to the present application, he or she is respectfully invited to contact Applicants' attorney at the telephone number set forth below.

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Respectfully submitted,

  
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|---|--|--------------------------|
| FORM PTO-1019 U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE<br>(Rev. 2-32) PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE<br><br>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE<br>STATEMENT BY APPLICANT<br><br>(Use several sheets if necessary) | ATTY. DOCKET NO.<br>760-99 (formerly<br>498-269) | SERIAL NO.<br>09/994,551 |
|   | APPLICANT<br>Henderson et al.                    | CONFIRMATION NO.<br>8199 |
|   | FILING DATE<br>November 27, 2001                 | GROUP<br>3738            |

## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

| EXAMINER<br>INITIAL | DOCUMENT<br>NUMBER | DATE     | NAME           | CLASS | SUB<br>CLASS | FILING DATE<br>IF APPROPRIATE |
|---------------------|--------------------|----------|----------------|-------|--------------|-------------------------------|
|                     | 4,969,896          | 11/13/90 | Shors          |       |              |                               |
|                     | 5,609,624          | 03/11/97 | Kalis          |       |              |                               |
|                     | 5,866,217          | 02/02/99 | Drasler et al. |       |              |                               |
|                     | 6,319,279          | 11/20/01 | Kuo et al.     |       |              |                               |

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## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

| EXAMINER<br>INITIAL | DOCUMENT<br>NUMBER | DATE | COUNTRY | CLASS | SUB<br>CLASS | TRANSLATION |    |
|---------------------|--------------------|------|---------|-------|--------------|-------------|----|
|                     |                    |      |         |       |              | YES         | NO |
|                     |                    |      |         |       |              |             |    |

## OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

|  |  |  |  |
|--|--|--|--|
|  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  | Copy of Search Report issued on March 26, 2003 for International Application No. PCT/US 02/29292 filed September 16, 2002. |

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication with applicant.